CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for creating a replica (clone) computer system program image, the method comprising the steps of:

downloading a clone image to a target computer system;

receiving from the target computer system, target computer system configuration information;

determining, according to the received target computer system configuration information according to predetermined rules, a set of program components needed by the target computer system to complete a build of the target computer system; and

transmitting program components needed to the target computer system.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the target computer system configuration information comprises any one of an attached device information, a model information of the target computer system, a type information of the target computer system, an amount of memory information of the target computer system or a processor information of the target computer system.

3. The method according to claim 1 wherein a program component comprise any one of a program for determining a computer system configuration information, device drivers, application programs or custom build programs.

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4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the determining step further comprises the step of interrogating rules for configuration information.

5. A method for programmably building a replica (clone) computer system program image, the method comprising the steps of:

loading a clone image into a target computer system;

executing a clone install program at the target computer system, the target computer system in network communication with a build computer system;

detecting by the clone install program, configuration information of the computer system;

transmitting by way of the install program, the configuration information to the build computer system;

evaluating, the configuration information according to a configuration rule to determine a set of program components needed by the target computer system;

receiving the set of program components from the build computer system; and

storing the program components at the target computer system.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the executing step comprises the further steps of receiving an update to the install program from the build computer system.

7. The method according to claim 5 wherein program components comprise any one of programs to be run on the computer system to augment the install process, device drivers or application programs.

8. A computer program product for creating a replica (clone) computer system program image, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code therein for performing a method comprising:

downloading a clone image to a target computer system;

receiving from the target computer system, target computer system configuration information;

determining, according to the received target computer system configuration information according to predetermined rules, a set of program components needed by the target computer system to complete a build of the target computer system; and

transmitting program components needed to the target computer system.

9. The computer program product according to claim 8 wherein the target computer system configuration information comprises any one of an attached device information, a model information of the target computer system, a type information of the target computer system, an amount of memory information of the target computer system or a processor information of the target computer system.

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10. The computer program product according to claim 8 wherein a program component comprise any one of a program for determining a computer system configuration information, device drivers, application programs or custom build programs.

11. The computer program product according to claim 8 wherein the determining step further comprises the step of interrogating rules for configuration information.

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12. A computer program product for programmably building a replica (clone) computer system program image, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable program code therein for performing a method comprising:

loading a clone image into the target computer system;

executing a clone install program at the target computer system, the target computer system in network communication with a build computer system;

detecting by the clone install program, configuration information of the computer system;

transmitting by way of the install program, the configuration information to the build computer system;

evaluating, the configuration information according to a configuration rule to determine a set of program components needed by the target computer system;

receiving the set of program components from the build computer system; and

storing the program components at the target computer system.

13. The computer program product according to claim 12 wherein the executing step comprises the further steps of receiving an update to the install program from the build computer system.

14. The computer program product according to claim 12 wherein program components comprise any one of programs to be run on the computer system to augment the install process, device drivers or application programs.

15. A system for creating a replica (clone) computer system program image, the system comprising:

    a network;

    a target computer system in communication with the network, wherein the target computer system includes instructions to execute a method comprising:

        downloading a clone image to the target computer system;

        receiving from the target computer system, target computer system configuration information;

        determining, according to the received target computer system configuration information according to predetermined rules, a set of program components needed by the target computer system to complete a build of the target computer system; and

        transmitting program components needed to the target computer system.

16. The system according to claim 15 wherein the target computer system configuration information comprises any one of an attached device information, a model information of the target computer system, a type information of the target computer system, an amount of memory information of the target computer system or a processor information of the target computer system.

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17. The method according to claim 15 wherein a program component comprise any one of a program for determining a computer system configuration information, device drivers, application programs or custom build programs.

18. A system for programmably building a replica (clone) computer system program image, the system comprising:

a network;

a build computer system in communication with the network;

a target computer system in communication with the network, wherein any one of the target computer system or the build computer system includes instructions to execute a method comprising:

loading a clone image into a target computer system;

executing a clone install program at the target computer system, the target computer system in network communication with a build computer system;

detecting by the clone install program, configuration information of the computer system;

transmitting by way of the install program, the configuration information to the build computer system;

evaluating, the configuration information according to a configuration rule to determine a set of program components needed by the target computer system;

receiving the set of program components from the build computer system; and

storing the program components at the target computer system.

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19. The system according to claim 18 wherein the executing step comprises the further steps of receiving an update to the install program from the build computer system.

20. The system according to claim 18 wherein program components comprise any one of programs to be run on the computer system to augment the install process, device drivers or application programs.